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TRADE EXPANSION AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, INCLUDING REGIONAL, SUB-REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS [14]

Declaration of support by socialist countries on the question of trade expansion and economic co-operation among the developing countries (Submitted by the representative of the USSR on behalf of the Group D countries at the 20th meeting of Working Group II, 19th March 1968).

The socialist countries support measures to develop economic relations between the developing countries which are aimed at strengthening their political and economic independence. They stress that economic co-operation between the developing countries may be truly of advantage if the economic groupings of these countries are open, do not hinder the economic development of other developing countries not participating in a particular process of economic co-operation and are based on the just principles excluding discrimination due to differences in the social and economic systems of the countries concerned.

The expansion of such co-operation can undoubtedly promote more effective utilization of the resources of the developing countries, help to overcome the limiting effect of national markets on the development of their economies and be a way of accelerating their rate of development.

Since the process of developing economic co-operation between the developing countries is occurring under specific and particularly difficult conditions, it requires the application of appropriate economic methods and machinery; this refers in particular to the increasing role of the State, which is playing in the developing countries at present an ever greater role in the economy and in the mobilization of different sources of capital accumulation for the purpose of economic development.

In addition, in order to ensure the best conditions for the development of co-operation, it is necessary to eliminate many unfavourable consequences of the colonial past. An important form of assistance to the developing countries - for purposes, inter alia, of regional co-operation - would be the exercise by the newly independent countries of the right to compensation for the loss caused to their economies during the period of colonial dependence and unrestricted control over profits transferred abroad by foreign investors.

In accordance with the above principles, the socialist countries will continue to organize their relations with the developing countries in such a way as to help solve the problems confronting the developing countries in this field through the expansion of purchases of raw materials, manufactures and semi-manufactures from those countries and further development of economic co-operation on a bilateral basis, and in part through the appropriate international bodies. The socialist countries are ready to continue making the services of experts available to the developing countries and making arrangements for the training of national personnel in the field of the expansion of trade and the development of economic co-operation between them.